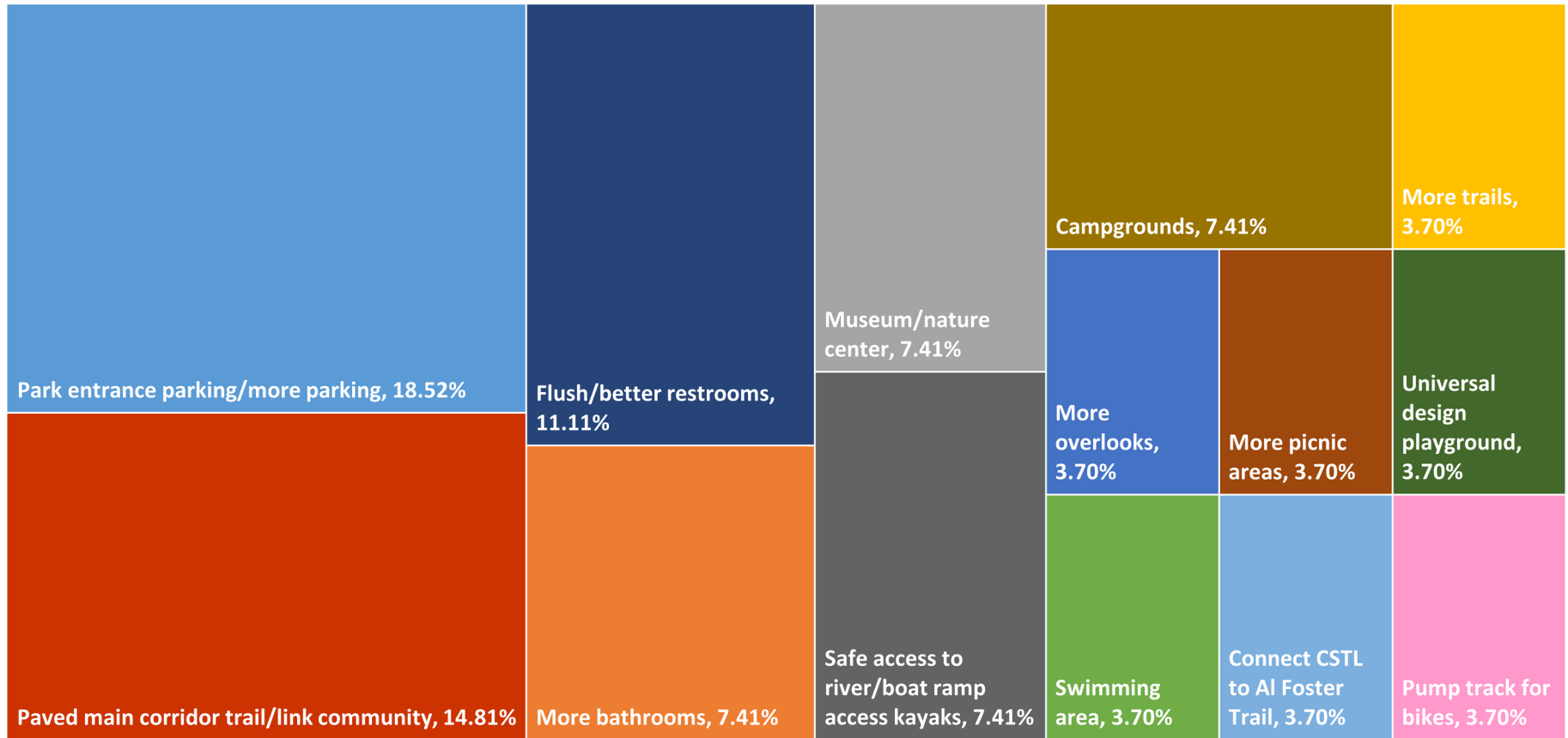




CASTLEWOOD STATE PARK

Q: What recreational activities and facilities, if any, do you feel are missing and should be added to this park or historic site to enhance the visitor experience?





Comments/suggestions regarding Missouri State Parks:

1. Castlewood is great
2. Castlewood's design makes it a nightmare for traffic. The vehicle traffic through the park is so high, with so many speeders and no sidewalks for walkers, that it is unsafe to take children into most areas of the park. I like that the gate at the lower part of the park has been closed because it's the only area families can go without fear of their children being hit by a car. It's been wonderful to have that quiet area away from the busiest areas of the park. Please make this permanent.
3. I feel like closing the gate down before the railroad tracks has increased the safety within that area and provided for additional opportunities for recreation. Upon my last visit I saw a family with their toddlers riding their bikes in this area. Closing it from vehicle traffic has allowed for locale residents to use this park more to ensure their children have a safe place to play in leu of playing in the busy streets and cul-de-sacs.
4. Showers at camp grounds need to be better taken care of.
5. Improved trail markings, particularly along river bottom; designated crosswalks
6. I would like better trail markers. I know on the river scene trail the markers are confusing.
7. MO state parks are a tremendous asset for the residents of and visitors to our state. I never cease to be amazed at how many wonderful and varied hiking/biking trails there are within 45 minutes of the city. Thank you to all who keep the parks safe and well maintained!
8. I very much appreciate that MO state parks and historic sites charge no admission fee.
9. Castlewood is a beautiful Park and one that has become more and more used--particularly the past couple of years. It badly needs expansion.
10. Wonderful park!
11. Nice job! Would not mind a small parking lot near the top of the hill along Ries Road to permit a bit of access to those less able but I like to keep the place wild, too.
12. The connection needs to be restored between castlewood & the al foster trail.
13. Please bring back the historic stamp collection
14. Missouri parks are beautiful, keep up the great work of taking care of them!
15. We love Missouri State Parks, they are great!

**Castlewood State Park
CDP Survey #1 Results (2020)**



n = 48 (# of respondents)

16. Love them!
17. No
18. Have seen times in several parks where staff seem frustrated with people. Not in all staff, but several where a higher focus on customer experience could be enhanced.
19. Love Castlewood!!!
20. We have a travel trailer. We limit our camping to campgrounds with full hook up sites. Adding these to state parks which do not have them (or have enough) would be appreciated. We are happy to pay more for full hook up sites. We also enjoy a wifi connection and would be happy to pay more either as part of the fee or as an add on. We've visited a number of Mo State Parks. I write a blog (www.ChambersontheRoad.com), so you could read (if interested) about our visits to the State Parks. Thank you for conducting this survey.
21. I would like to see more rangers
22. This parks trails are really tore up and way to busy. Use to hike here at least once a month years ago. I don't now. Too crowded and the trail is pretty tore up
23. We love our state parks!
24. New creek fixes at Castlewood seem to be making creek inaccessible to people in many spots. Trails are being re-routed away from creek. Why?
25. Washed out area on River Scene trail connecting to Stinging Nettle needs to be fixed to be accessible to everyone. Railroad should be worried as this is a very serious safety hazard for all!!
26. Park should do more trail maintenance instead of relying on volunteers to cut weeds/grass and remove downed trees."
27. I volunteer at both Castlewood and St. Joe State Park. The staff at both parks are dedicated and provide outstanding service.
28. Something that several dirt bike and atv riders have questioned me about in the past is why users of the ORV Area at St Joe have to pay for use while bikers, hikers, and equestrian users do not pay for use. I don't personally have an issue with this but I mention it because I have heard it from many ORV Area users. Perhaps something could be added to the St. Joe website that explains why the use fee is needed and what those dollars are used for."
29. Are there plans to highlight the Kiefer creek restoration project? Also people still seem to swim in Kiefer Creek despite high e. coli. We also continue to advocate for continued invasive species control and provide signage to educate the many visitors about invasive species and what they can do at their home to help.

**Castlewood State Park
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- 30.** Parks have been very busy. Please find ways to reduce traffic. It's hard to enjoy with so many people. At castlewood there are always so many running groups, biking groups, large groups, etc. that make crowding worse. It is impossible to quietly enjoy nature at the park. Doesn't even feel like a state park. People treat it like a city park and it makes the park look horrible.
- 31.** I am proud of our parks. Thank you to park staff.
- 32.** "Wonderful park! Visited it on October 12 after many years!! Absolutely beautiful. Great the street is closed to traffic and parking past the railroad and along the river!! Thank you for all the work that is done to keep this park so accessible! Keep the area for walking - no cars, no parking along the river!!!"
- 33.** Generally MO state parks are excellent, as is Castlewood.
- 34.** Park was closed
- 35.** If you are going to close the park or put restrictions then furlough all park employees and Park Rangers. Why are tax payers paying park employees if the park is closed? Many health experts have recommended fresh air, sunshine (vitamin D), and exercise as a way to increase the immune system. Instead restrictions were placed that impeded on my freedom of movement. Totally disgusted and ashamed.